

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 AEC-07 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00

CIEP-02 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 FEAE-00 FPC-01 H-02

INR-07 INT-05 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-03 RSC-01

SAM-01 OES-05 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 FRB-01 PA-02

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TAGS:ENRG,PFOR,FR,US

SUBJECT: FURTHER PRESS AND OTHER REACTION TO SECRETARY'S
NATIONAL PRESS CLUB SPEECH

REF: A) PARIS 2950; B)PARIS 3022; C)PARIS 3124

1. PRESS COVERAGE FEB 5 OF SECRETARY KISSINGER'S SPEECH
WAS RELATIVELY LIGHT BUT GENERALLY LESS TENDENTIOUS THAN
FIRST REACTIONS ON PREVIOUS DAY. MAJOR ARTICLE BY "LE
MONDE" INCLUDED FACTUAL AND WELL-INFORMED ANALYSIS OF
SECRETARY'S SPEECH, WHICH APPROPRIATELY PLACED IN BOTH
INTERNATIONAL AND US ENERGY POLICY CONTEXT. ARTICLE WAS
SUPPORTED BY EDITORIAL WHICH NOTED THAT FLOOR PRICE
PROPOSAL AIMED OVER LONG TERM AT TAKING FROM OPEC
COUNTRIES THEIR EXCLUSIVE ROLE AS ORGANIZATION FOR FIXING
PETROLEUM PRICES; IN THIS CONTEXT, EDITORIAL COMMENTED
DR KISSINGER'S STRATEGY SEEMED "WELL FOUNDED". "LES
ECHOS" (ECONOMIC/FINANCIAL DAILY) SOMEHOW FOUND FLOOR
PRICE CONCEPT TO BE OUTGROWTH OF FRENCH THESIS FAVORING
A "JUST REVENUE" TO PRODUCER COUNTRIES IN OTHERWISE
NONCOMMITAL ANALYSIS.

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2. PRESIDENT GISCARD, ON TV EVENING OF FEB 4, ANSWERED REPORTERS' QUESTIONS AS FOLLOWS:

Q:MR. PRESIDENT, DID YOU (AND CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT) SPEAK OF DR. KISSINGER'S STATEMENTS AND HOW DID YOU REACT?

GISCARD:WE DID NOT SPEAK IN PARTICULAR ABOUT MR. KISSINGER'S REMARKS; WE SPOKE OF THE PREPARATION OF THE CONFERENCE ON ENERGY AND WE AGREE ON THE METHOD OF PREPARATION FOR THAT CONFERENCE.

Q:DO YOU NOT HAVE THE IMPRESSION THAT HIS STATEMENTS CALL INTO QUESTION THE RESULTS OF THE MARTINIQUE CONFERENCE?

GISCARD:NOT AT ALL. THESE ARE QUESTIONS WHICH RELATE TO THE SECOND STAGE, THAT IS TO SAY THE STAGE OF COORDINATION OF ENERGY POLICIES AFTER THE PREPARATORY MEETING. HENCE, THESE ARE QUESTIONS THAT WE WILL EXAMINE AFTER THE PREPARATORY MEETING HAS TAKEN PLACE..."

3. ONE THEME PICKED UP BY MANY NEWSPAPERS WAS THE SECRETARY'S REMARK THAT IF THE UNITED STATES DID NOT TAKE THE LEADERSHIP IN THIS QUESTION, NO ONE ELSE WOULD. SOME THEN NOTED THAT ONLY FRANCE HAD REMAINED OUT OF THE IEA THROUGH WHICH THE U.S. WOULD BE ASSERTING ITS LEADERSHIP. PREDICTABLY, L'HUMANITE UNDERLINED GISCARD'S NONCOMMITTAL RESPONSE TO HIGHLIGHT HIS "CAPITULATION" TO AMERICAN DEMANDS. KISSINGER'S STRATEGY WAS CHARACTERIZED AS CONSISTING OF PRESENTING A "NEO-COLONIALIST" FRONT TO OIL PRODUCERS AND ACCELERATING ATLANTIC INTEGRATION UNDER WASHINGTON DOMINATION. STONE

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